



Holmen Area Fire Department

FIRE COMMISSION

AGENDA

710 South Main Street
Holmen, WI 54636
www.holmenfire.com

Date/Time: Tuesday May 26, 2026 @ 6:30 pm
Location: Town of Holland Town Hall, Holmen, WI, 54636

The Holmen Area Fire Commission will hold a regular meeting on May 26, 2026 at 6:30 pm at the Town of Holland Town Hall.

All items on the agenda indicate items for discussion and possible action.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- 1.) Call to Order
- 2.) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3.) Roll Call
- 4.) Approval of the Agenda
- 5.) Approval of March 2, 2026 Meeting Minutes
- 6.) Resident or Employee Concerns/Comments
The Commission may receive information from the public and department employees, but reserves the right to limit the time that the public/employee may comment, as well as the right to limit the degree to which members of the public and employees may participate in the meeting.
- 7.) Fire Administration Report (Chief Ostreng)
 - a. General Fire Department Stats
 - b. Staffing/Personnel Updates
 - i. End of probation badge exchange for Firefighter Emmaline Zabel
- 8.) Commission Chair Report
- 9.) Unfinished Business
- 10.) Introduction of New Fire Commissioner
- 11.) Election of Fire Commission Officers
 - a. Election of Commission Chair
 - b. Election of Commission Vice Chair
 - c. Election of Commission Secretary
- 12.) Consideration of Next Meeting Date
- 13.) Adjourn

Note: Meeting agenda and meeting packets are available at www.holmenfire.com. Printed meeting agenda and packets will be available by request only. Call the Holmen Area Fire Department at 608-526-9363 prior to noon the day of the Fire Commission meeting to request your printed copies.



www.holmenfire.com

Date Notice Emailed: 05/22/2026

Notices Posted: 05/22/2026

Notices Emailed To:

Holmen Area Fire Commission	Board/Town/Village	Media	Posted
Patrick Brockman - Holland	HAFD Members/IAFF L127	Holmen Courier	Holmen Area FD
James Bushman - Holmen	Marilyn Pedretti	La Crosse Tribune	Town of Holland
Neal Forde - Holmen	Scott Heinig	La Crosse Radio Group	Village of Holmen
John Miller - Holland	Angela Hornberg	WXOW	Holmen USPS
Barry Ploessl - Holmen	Lindsay Brown	WKBT	Holmen Library
	Joe Kovacevich	WIZM	www.holmenfire.com
	Kristie Tweed	FOX2548	
	HAFD Admin		
	HAFD Fire Board		

DRAFT MINUTES**Subject To Change Before Approval By The Holmen Area Fire Commission****Holmen Area Fire Commission Meeting Minutes: March 2,2026****Meeting Location: Town of Holland Town Hall - Holmen, WI 54636****CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was promptly called to order by Chairman Ploessl at 6:30 pm.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE WAS RECITED.**ROLL CALL:**

Members Present: Neal Forde, Village of Holmen; John Miller, Town of Holland; Barry Ploessl, Village of Holmen, Patrick Brockman, Town of Holland.

Also Present: Ryan Ostreng, Fire Chief.

Absent: James Bushman, Village of Holmen

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Commissioner Forde, with 2nd by Commissioner Brockman to approve the meeting agenda as posted. Unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the February 5, 2026 meeting were reviewed by the commissioners. A motion was made by Commissioner Brockman with second by Commissioner Forde to approve the minutes. This motion was unanimously approved.

RESIDENT OR EMPLOYEE CONCERNS/COMMENTS:

No concerns from residents were presented.

However, Mr. Patrick Barlow, Holmen Village President was in attendance and asked to be heard. He presented Commissioner Neal Forde with a token of appreciation for his active involvement in helping establish the Holmen Area Fire Commission and for his term of service on the Commission which will be ending soon. Thank you, Mr. Barlow, for your attendance and for your kind words for Commissioner Forde.

FIRE ADMINISTRATION REPORT:

- A- Chief Ostreng reported the response level for January 2026 was 130 calls, compared to 101 last January. Some credit for that increase would be due to influenza hitting the community. February calls were 122 vs. 96 last February.
- B- Staffing/Personnel: A pinning ceremony was held to recognize the Promotion of Nicholas Meinertz to the position of Captain. Captain Meinertz was joined by friends, family, and fellow HAFD personnel. Oath was administered by Chief Ostreng. Sworn in by Chairman Ploessl. Pinned (carefully) by Hudson. Congratulations Captain Meinertz!!!

COMMISSION CHAIR REPORT:

Nothing reported.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

DRAFT MINUTES

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Nothing at this time.

CLOSED SESSION:

N/A

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION:

N/A

RESERVATION OF RIGHT FOR ACTION and/or RECOMMENDATION ON CLOSED SESSION ITEM(S) FOR CLOSED SESSION ITEM(S):

N/A

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

The next meeting of the HAFC is scheduled for May 26, 2026.
All meeting dates will be confirmed and posted by Chief Ostreng.

ADJOURN:

A motion was made by Commissioner Miller, with a second from Commissioner Brockman to adjourn the meeting. This motion passed with unanimous approval. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Minutes respectfully recorded and published by John Miller, Commission Secretary.
March 4, 2026

Certificate of Completion

This is to certify that

Emmaline Zabel

has successfully completed

the probationary firefighter/EMT period with the

Holmen Area Fire Department on May 22, 2026



Presented on May 26, 2026

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Ryan R. Ostreng", is written over a horizontal line.

Fire Chief Ryan R. Ostreng

Memo



To: Holmen Area Fire Commission
From: Ryan Ostreng
cc:
Date: May 18, 2026
Re: Introduction of New Commissioner Troy Miller

Commissioner Troy Miller, who was recently appointed to the Fire Commission, will be unable to attend the May 26, 2026 meeting. Mr. Miller has provided the following biographical information to serve as an introduction to the Commission.

TROY A. MILLER

I was born and raised in La Crosse and resided there until 2011. In 2012 I moved to the Town of Holland with my wife and two children and have lived there ever since. I worked for the Onalaska Police Department from 1996-2022 where I held several different positions including Officer, GREAT Instructor, Sergeant, Co-Chair/ Forensic Examiner for Internet Task Force, Assistant Chief, and Chief. In 2022, I retired from the department after approximately 13 years as Assistant Chief of Police. My wife has recently retired and we enjoy traveling, ATV'ing, walking our dog, and spending quality time together and visiting with our adult children. I look forward to serving on the Holmen Area Fire Commission and representing the Town of Holland with the community's best interests at the forefront.

Proudly Serving the Town of Holland and Village of Holmen

2026 Holmen Area Fire Commission Roster										
Commissioner	Last Name	First Name	Jurisdiction Representing	Office	Term Start	Term End	Phone Number	2nd Phone Number	Email Address	Home Address
1	Bushman	James	Village of Holmen		May-25	Apr-30	608-556-3860	608-789-6263	bushmanj@westerntc.edu	2014 Crooked Ave, Holmen, WI 54636
2	Miller	Troy	Town of Holland		May-26	Apr-31	608-792-7394		tmiller3270@gmail.com	W8056 Prairie Meadows St, Holmen, WI 54636
3	Miller	John	Town of Holland	Secretary	Jan-24	Apr-27	608-790-6524		joh1616Miller@gmail.com	N6880 Sand Prairie Ct, Holmen, WI 54696
4	Ploessl	Barry	Village of Holmen	Chair	Jan-24	Apr-28	608-526-9364	608-386-8718	barry.ploessl@edwardjones.com	910 Deerfield Street, Holmen WI 54636
5	Brockman	Patrick	Town of Holland	Vice Chair	Jan-24	Apr-29	608-792-0055		PCBrockman49@gmail.com	W8088 Old NA, Holmen, WI 54636

appointed Commissioner, that Commissioner position shall alternate and be filled by an appointed member from the other participating municipality in the Holmen Area Fire Commission. This pattern of alternation shall continue for all five Commissioner positions unless amended by the Holmen Area Fire Commission

(4) **Vacancies.** Whenever a vacancy occurs during the term of office of a Commissioner, a new Commissioner from the same municipality shall be appointed to complete the predecessor's term of office. The appointment shall be made in the same manner as original appointments are made.

§ 104. Officers of the Fire Commission.

(1) Chair.

(a) **Election.** The Commission shall elect a Chair at the first meeting of the Commission that occurs after May 1st of each year. The Chair shall hold office until his or her replacement is duly elected by the Commission.

(b) **Duties.** The Chair of the Commission shall have the responsibility to:

1. Set the agenda for Commission meetings, which shall include all items requested by any Commission member;
2. Preside over Commission meetings;
3. Preside over any disciplinary hearings involving the Fire Chief or subordinate members over whom the Commission has jurisdiction and perform such other functions in the disciplinary process as are identified in Article VII of these Rules or in § 62.13 of the Wisconsin Statutes;
4. Preside over appointment and promotion ceremonies;
5. Serve as public spokesperson for the Commission;
6. Appoint Commission members to any committees that are created by the Commission from time to time;
7. Assure that the Holmen Area Fire Department Board of Directors is regularly informed about Commission activities;
8. Supervise any session at which candidates for promotion are afforded an opportunity to review their written promotional tests and the accuracy of the scoring thereof.
9. Assure that Commission expenditures are vigilantly monitored and kept

within budgetary limits established by the Board of Directors of the Holmen Area Fire Department; and

10. Take such other action as is necessary to assure that the duties of the Commission are properly discharged, provided that such action is not inconsistent with these Rules or with the Wisconsin Statutes.

(2) Vice Chair.

(a) **Election.** The Commission shall elect a Vice Chair at the first meeting of the Commission that occurs after May 1st of each year. The Vice Chair shall hold office until his or her replacement is duly elected by the Commission.

(b) **Duties.** The Vice Chair of the Commission shall have the responsibility to:

1. Preside at Commission meetings when the Chair is absent;
2. Assume the responsibilities of the Chair when requested to do so by the Chair; and
3. Perform such other Commission duties as requested by the Chair, provided that such duties are not inconsistent with these Rules or with the Wisconsin Statutes.

(3) Secretary.

(a) **Election.** The Commission shall elect a Secretary at the first meeting of the Commission that occurs after May 1st of each year. The Secretary shall hold office until his or her replacement is duly elected by the Commission.

(b) **Duties.** The Secretary of the Commission shall have the responsibility to:

1. Attend all meetings of the Commission, prepare the Minutes thereof for approval by the Commission, and maintain the official copy of the Minutes once they are approved;
2. Serve as the official custodian of the Minutes of Commission meetings and of all other Commission documents and records;
3. Prepare and publish official notices of Commission business, including meeting notices and agendas, as requested by the Chair or as otherwise required by these Rules or by the Wisconsin Statutes;
4. Assist the Chair in preparing and circulating Commission correspondence;

5. Accept for filing all appointments of Commission members;
6. Perform such functions in the disciplinary process as are identified in Article VII of these Rules or in § 62.13 of the Wisconsin Statutes;
7. Perform such other Commission duties as requested by the Chair, provided that such duties are not inconsistent with these Rules or with the Wisconsin Statutes.

§ 105. Address of the Fire Commission.

All correspondence with the Commission, its officers, and its members shall be sent to the following address:

Holmen Area Fire Commission
Holmen Area Fire Department
710 S. Main Street
Holmen, Wisconsin 54636

§ 106. Service of Process on the Fire Commission.

The Commission designates the Fire Chief, whose office is located at Holmen Area Fire Department, 710 S. Main Street, Holmen, Wisconsin 54636, as its agents to receive legal process addressed to the Commission or to any of its members in their official capacities, unless personal service of process is otherwise required by law.

§ 107. Rules of the Fire Commission.

- (1) These Rules of the Fire Commission shall govern the conduct of all business relating to the duties and responsibilities of the Commission and shall further apply to the position of Fire Chief and to all subordinate positions within the Holmen Area Fire Department that are under the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- (2) These Rules of the Fire Commission and any amendments thereto shall take effect upon adoption by the Commission at a regular meeting thereof and shall remain in effect until such time as they are repealed or amended in whole or in part.
- (3) These Rules of the Fire Commission are subject to the applicable provisions of state and federal law. It is the express intention of the Commission to comply with all applicable state and federal laws as they relate to hiring, promotion, discipline, and termination of Department members within the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- (4) Should any provision of these Rules be declared unlawful by a court of competent jurisdiction, all other provisions shall remain in full force and effect.